Code of Conduct for Journalists

*192. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to foumulate a Code of Conduct for journalists who and to play a crucial role in the media;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a meeting of the experts will be called before the Code of Conduct is finalised; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Activities of a Deputy Director in the Enforcement Directorate

*193. SHRMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Goernment have recently initiated CBI inquiry into the alleged suspicious activities of the Deputy Director in the Enforement Directorate;

(b) if so, whether the inquiry has been completed; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Law Commission's recommendaiton to raise the number of seats in the Lower House of Parliament

*194. SHRI SATISHCHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSITCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has recommended that the strength of the Lower House of Parliament be raised to 688 and an additional 138 Members be elected under the proportional representation list system; and

(b) if so, the details tthereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Law Commission has not made any receommendaiton to the Government so far in this regard. The Commission has, however, circulated a working paper containing some proposals on electoral reforms for soliciting views of various political parties, Election Commission, Legislatures, etc.

राजसहायता पर राष्ट्रीय आम सहमति

*195. **श्री खान गुफरान जाहिदी:** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार राजसहायता के बारे में एक व्यापक राष्ट्रीय सहमति विकसित करने पर विचार कर रही है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री यशवन्त सिन्हा: (क) और (ख) केन्द्रीय सरकार का यह प्रयास रहा है कि सब्सिडी व्यवस्था को पारदर्शी और बेहतर लक्ष्योन्मुखी बनाया जाय तथा जहां भी जरूरी हो सब्सिडी प्राप्त वस्तुओं की कीमतों में परिवर्तन करके उसे युक्तिसंगत बनाया जाए। 3 फरवरी 1999 को लखनऊ में आयोजित एक प्रेस कांफ्रेंस में प्रधानमंत्री ने अपने व्यक्तव्य में एक आम सहमति तैयार करने के विचार से सभी राजनीतिक दलों से सब्सिडी के अर्थशास्त्र को अधिक विस्तृत राष्ट्रीय संदर्श में देखने का आग्रह किया।